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GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL'S ORATORIO

# THE MESSIAH

181st AND 182nd PERFORMANCE BY THIS SOCIETY

Under the Auspices of

MASSACHUSETTS WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ASSOCIATION

Symphony Hall, Boston
Sunday Evening, December 15, 1946
Monday Evening, December 16, 1946

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It is requested that there be no applause except at the end of Part One and at the conclusion of the performance.

#### GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL

Born in Halle, February 23, 1685

Died in London, April 13, 1759

#### THE MESSIAH

ORATORIO, composed in 1741; begun August 22, finished September 14. Text selected from the Scriptures by CHARLES JENNENS. Produced in Dublin, April 13, 1742, under the direction of HANDEL. Additional accompaniments by MOZART, 1789; and by ROBERT FRANZ, for the use of the Handel and Haydn Society, completed and published in 1884. First performance by the Handel and Haydn Society, December 25, 1818, in Boylston Hall; present performances are the 179th and 180th.

#### PART ONE

#### THE PROPHECIES AND THE FULFILLMENT

1. Overture (grave: Fugue).

#### TENOR RECITATIVE

2. Comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord: make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

#### ARIA

3. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low: the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

#### CHORUS

4. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed; and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

#### BASS RECITATIVE

5. Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come; the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

#### ALTO RECITATIVE

6. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name EM-MANUEL. God with us.

#### CHORUS

7. O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, good tidings to Jerusalem, arise, say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

#### BASS RECITATIVE

8. For behold darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising.

#### ARIA

9. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath light shined.

#### **CHORUS**

10. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

# A MESSAGE

from

# RIGHT REVEREND ANGUS DUN

Bishop of Washington

# The Spirit In Which We Build

To build a Cathedral is to make something great and lovely for God to use. We have built a lot of other things—to make us more comfortable, to amuse us, to kill people with, to sell. Let us build something great and lovely here in the Capital of our country; not to make us more comfortable—perhaps to make us more uncomfortable about the world's danger and our own self-righteousness: not for ourselves at all. Let us build it and offer it to God, saying, "O God, take this we have made. It is the loveliest thing we could build. It seems to us something like you; so we think it is something you might use. We have tried to put our best into it. Now take it, O God. Take it and use it. Speak to us through it, to us and to this whole people. Let thy Christ be manifest to us here with power."

It can be that God will take it and use it. He has a way of taking and using what is really given to Him.

Angus Dun, Bishop of Washington 11. Pastoral Symphony (on the traditional air of the Calabrian pifferari).

#### SOPRANO RECITATIVE

- 12. There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.
- 13. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them; and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
- 14. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
- 15. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying:

#### CHORUS

16. Glory to God in the highest; and peace on earth, good will towards men.

#### SOPRANO ARIA

17. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold thy King cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Savior; and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

#### ALTO RECITATIVE

18. Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened; and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

#### ALTO AND SOPRANO ARIA

19. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom; and gently lead those that are with young... Come unto Him, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest; Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

#### **CHORUS**

20. His yoke is easy, and his burden is light.

#### END OF PART ONE

#### INTERMISSION

#### PART TWO

#### THE PASSION AND THE TRIUMPH

#### **CHORUS**

 Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

#### ALTO ARIA

22. He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

#### CHORUS

23. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way.

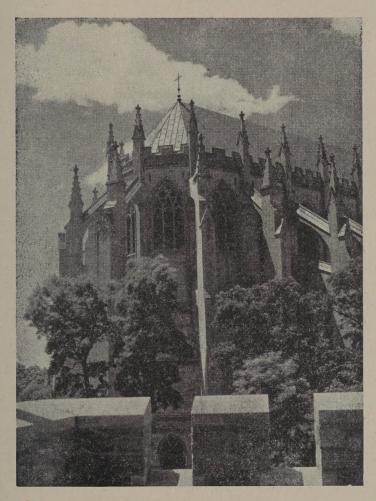
And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

#### TENOR RECITATIVE

24. Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness; He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man; neither found He any to comfort Him.

#### ARIA

25. Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.



Exterior Washington Cathedral Apse.

#### TENOR RECITATIVE

He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of Thy people 26. was He stricken.

#### ARIA

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to 27. see corruption.

#### CHORUS

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the 28. King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

#### BASS ARIA

29. Why do the nations so furiously rage together; and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His anointed.

#### CHORUS

30. Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

#### CHORUS

31. Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. HALLE-LUJAH!

#### SOPRANO ARIA

I know that my Redeemer liveth; and that He shall stand at the latter day upon 32. the earth: and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

#### BASS RECITATIVE

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinking of an eye, at the last trumpet.

#### ARIA

The trumpet shall sound; and the dead shall be raised incorruptible; and we shall 34. be changed.

#### CHORUS

- 35. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever.
- 36. Amen!

### THE PERMANENT FUND

of the Handel and Haydn Society was established by a deed of trust on May 28, 1806. The net proceeds of the Great Festival of May 1865, at the end of the Civil War, furnished the foundation of the Fund, and it has grown slowly by gifts and bequests. Only the income of the Fund can be used for the benefit of the Society.

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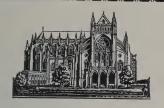
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## CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

(Opposite Park St. Subway)

#### BOSTON CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Monday, December 23

"It came upon the midnight clear" by Edmund Hamilton Sears, 1846

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24
"O little town of Bethlehem"
by Phillips Brooks, 1867

Addresses by Dean van Etten

## TRINITY CHURCH

COPLEY SQUARE, BOSTON

THE REV. THEODORE P. FERRIS, D.D., Rector

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

8 p.m.—Traditional Candlelight Carol Service

11 p.m.—Holy Communion and Address by the Rector

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

8 a.m.—Holy Communion

11 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon by the Rector

# CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

MT. VERNON AND BRIMMER STREETS

REV. WHITNEY HALE, D.D., Rector

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong, Address, Carols and Solemn Procession

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

12:00 Midnight: Solemn Mass and Holy Communion 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 9:30 a.m., Holy Communion

## CHRIST CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

THE REV. GARDINER M. DAY, Rector

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

10:00 P.M. Festival Candlelight Service of Holy Communion with Boy's Choir and Sermon by the Rector.

11:30 P.M. Festival Candlelight Service of Holy Communion with Polyphonic Choir and Sermon by the Rector.

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8:00 A.M. Holy Communion.

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# THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL BOSTON

Several of our well known Christmas Carols which had their origin here in Boston, are especially dear to all of us. Probably best loved of them all is Phillips Brooks' "O little town of Bethlehem" which was sung for the first time in Trinity Church on Christmas Eve in 1867. A second favorite, "It came upon a midnight clear", written in 1846, is by Edmund Hamilton Sears.

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## THE MINISTRY OF TRINITY CHURCH

The ministy of Trinity Church, like the ministry of all city churches, has changed radically in the last fifty years. While the thing that is administered has not changed, namely the Gospel of God in Christ, the people to whom it is ministered have changed greatly in character and circumstances. Fifty years ago, Trinity Church was made up largely of families in or near the Back Bay area. It goes without saying that most of those families had no financial

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## ALL SAINTS'. BROOKLINE

BEACON STREET AND DEAN ROAD

THE REV. HAROLD BEND SEDGWICK. Rector

SUNDAY EVENINGS, DECEMBER 15 and DECEMBER 22, 8 P.M.

Christmas Carol Service in the Candlelighted Church Lighting of the Yule Candle

CHRISTMAS EVE., DECEMBER 24, 11:30 P.M.

The Midnight Communion Service by Candlelight. No Sermon. CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 A.M. Holy Communion (No Music) 11:00 A.M. Morning Prayer. Carols. Sermon by the Rector.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN BROOKLINE

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Sunday, December 22, 4:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE

11:00 P.M. Holy Communion, Choir and Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 A.M. Holy Communion, Address, Choir and Carols

## EMMANUEL CHURCH

15 NEWBURY STREET, BOSTON Rev. Robert G. Metters, Rector

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd

4:30 P.M.—FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND LIGHTS
PROGRAM

Resonet in laudibus	(1)50-1591) Jacob Handi
Lo, how a rose e'er blooming	(1571-1621) Michael Prætorius
O Magnum Mysterium	(1540-1611) Tomas Luis da Vittoria
The Shepherds had an Angel	(1888- ) Maurice Besly
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CHRISTMAS EVE	
11 00 DAG AUDAUGUE PEGEAT OF	TRUICE OF HOLL COLUMNIA

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communian—Chapel 11:00 A.M.—Holy Communion and Sermon

# CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

HAMMOND STREET, CHESTNUT HILL

REV. JOHN T. GOLDING, Rector

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4:30 P.M. Nativity Play with Carols (in the chancel of the Church)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE 11 P.M. Festival Midnight Communion

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 A.M. Choral Holy Communion and Sermon

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27

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Sermon by the Rector.

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How far is it to Bethlehem?	(1892- ) Alec Rowley
Christmas Day	(1874-1934) Gustav Holst
OTTO TOMBLE & O. TYTE	` '

CHRISTMAS EVE

11:00 P.M.—MIDNIGHT FESTAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION Mass of the Quiet Hour... George Oldroyd Everywhere Christmas Tonight... T. Tertius Noble CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communian—Chapel 11:00 A.M.—Holy Communion and Sermon

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25. CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 A.M. Choral Holy Communion and Sermon

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH. BROOKLINE

Founded over fifty years ago in one of the new residential districts of Greater Boston, All Saints' Church in the scope of its activities and usefulness has virtually become a great city Parish. Standing on Beacon Street, one of the through avenues of traffic out of Boston, the Parish is ministering to an ever growing community that extends far and wide. Services are held from early morning till late at night every Sunday, and activities are held for young and old during the week.

# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

#### **BROOKLINE**

No service of the year means more to the children of St. Paul's Church, Brookline, than the Children's Mystery, to be held this year at 4 P.M. on the Sunday before Christmas in order that fathers may attend. This pageant,—the same from year to year, for children like repetition,—is the story of the Nativity simply told in carols and tableau without elaborate music, lighting or dialogue. The children take part anonymously. In every respect it is a service, not a play. The youngest children are welcome for nothing more impresses a child than that the first time he is brought into a large gathering it should be to find people worshipping God. This is the first event of Christmas—before Santa Claus or presents. Children bring gifts to the Manger. Grown-ups will enjoy it the more for seeing Christmas through children's eyes.

FREDERIC C. LAWRENCE

# EMMANUEL CHURCH SERVICE LEAGUE

The women of Emmanuel Church organized in November, under the direction of Reverend Robert G. Metters, a Women's Church Service League, to participate in and work for all branches of Service in the Church.

An Executive Committee was formed consisting of the Chairmen of all Sub-Committees and the following officers were elected:

General Chairman	Mrs. Bartlett Harwood
Vice Chairman	Miss Amy M. Sacker
Secretary	Mrs. Joseph Sargent
TreasurerMRS.	VALENTINE HOLLINGSWORTH

A large Tea will be held for all women of the Parish in January. and we welcome anyone interested in Church work particularly in our workroom, in the Social Service, or in young peoples activities—to join this new and vitally important organization.

The women of Emmanuel can play a very important part in the Church program and how very much closer we feel to our Church if we are actively engaged, in some capacity.

# CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

CHESTNUT HILL, MASS.

The Church School is a significant part in the life of this Parish: the number of children attending has been almost doubled in the past two years. This growth in attendance and vitality may be due to the effort on the part of the staff to reach the individual church rather than to be the slaves of cut-and-dried courses. An attempt is being made to have each child aware of the reality of God as an influence in his daily life, through worship and fellowship, study and service.

A Junior Church Council officiates, with class representatives working under an elected president, treasurer and secretary. A five-year-plan has been prepared, to give the pupils the necessary background before accepting fuller responsibilities at confirmation. It is encouraging to see, among parents and in the day-schools, a growing awareness of this great need of modern youth.

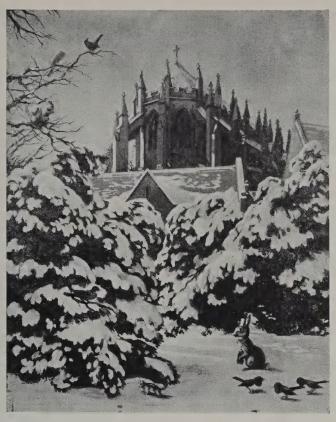
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Director

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## A PRAYER FOR LITTLE THINGS

By Margaret Murray

God bless the litte things this Christmastide
All the little wild things that live outside
Little cold robins and rabbits in the snow
Give them good faring and a warm place to go
All the little young things for His sake who died
Who was a little Thing at Christmastide.

This page has been donated by MR. AND MRS. REDINGTON MUDGE DE CORMIS

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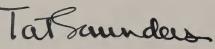
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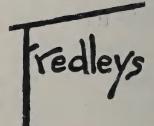
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